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[Excerpts] Army Commander in Chief Roberto Eduardo Viola made a statement to journalists in Cordoba yesterday. He said: "I have repeatedly stated that important objectives have been attained in the economic field."

"These achievements," said Viola, "have been quite satisfactory, even though--as Martinez de Hoz said recently--not all the established goals have been achieved. As he said: We have overcome 80 percent of our problems." He added that one effort remains to be made before the attainment of a solvent economy. "There is no denying that there are still some important problems to be solved--that is inflation, the purchasing power of salaries, currency circulation and other obstacles which prevent the Argentine economy from following a steady, clearly outlined course." He emphasized, however, that "results obtained so far can certainly satisfy very many people."

With regard to the dialog he had spoken about shortly after taking over as commander in chief of the army, Viola said: "Once the military junta reconciles the political proposals of the three armed forces branches, the appropriate order will be issued to begin implementation of this dialog."

On the junta's position toward active duty officers continuing in government and whether there will be any changes, Viola said that the national executive will decide on this. "The army is ready to put at the disposal of the president of the nation as many officers as may become necessary during his presidential term in office," said Viola.

On the negotiations with Chile, in response to a question regarding what may happen after 2 November [when the talks of Argentine-Chilean Mixed Commission No 2 are scheduled to end], General Viola indicated: "You can draw your conclusions from the communique issued at the end of the recent round of talks. I prefer to be optimistic with regard to these problems. Common sense must prevail, but this does not mean that we are willing to give up an inch of our sovereignty."

With regard to the talks with Brazil on the Itaipu-Corpus conflict, the commander in chief of the army said: "I believe that the latest talks show both countries' intentions to reach an understanding on this subject. I am truly optimistic."

As to which came first, the Panama talks or the southern border conflict with Chile, Viola said: "At this point the southern border conflict comes first, and I mean at this point. The border problem must have an immediate solution. The problems we may have within the River Plate basin can be dealt with by means of negotiations which will require some time.

Views Foreign, Domestic Issues

PY2101422Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2120 GMT 20 Sep 78 PY

[Excerpts] San Miguel de Tucuman, 20 Sep (TELAM)--Army Commander in Chief Roberto Viola, in referring to the political proposal, stated today that the armed forces are at present making the proposals of each one of the three forces compatible and that once this is achieved and a total agreement is reached on the various points included, the general guidelines will be released either immediately or gradually.

He added: "When this will happen cannot be determined exactly. I do believe it will be in the more-or-less near future, relatively soon. If it were up to me, it would be before the end of the year."

During a press conference held at the 19th Infantry Regiment, Viola stated in regard to the negotiations with Chile that the army's philosophy is that Argentina must solve this problem in such a way that what we understand as our legitimate sovereign rights are not affected at all.

Regarding the announced cancellation of U.S. arms sales to Argentina, he expressed his belief that this would not create any problems for the army.

Regarding the army, he said: "Restrictions on the sale of arms and parts do no represent insolvable problems for us," but he explained that mainly with regard to parts, the situation is not the best.

Regarding arms, he said that these can be bought anywhere in the world, but, he repeated, the line of spare parts may create some problems, particularly in the army's aviation branch, for some types of airplanes. He added: "Despite this, so far we have been able to obtain the items that we needed."

General Viola denied that the Military Committee had discussed a cabinet restructure. He added: Discussing changes in the cabinet is not the responsibility of the Military Committee. This committee is responsible for everything dealing with security and military planning. At no time does it deal with the issue of a cabinet restructure.

He indicated that a return to active duty by officials who are now performing functions in the government is an issue which is practically the exclusive responsibility of the National Executive Branch. The army has made a commitment to the process and is willing to support it, he said.

He stated that the promotions of higher officers will be announced in a time span of not less than 15 days, that four brigadier generals will be promoted to major general and that there may be 11 colonels who will be promoted to brigadier general.

He also stated that the present structures of the army meet the needs of national defnece, both for conventional warfare and for the struggle against subversion and that he was pleased "with the high spirit observed in all units I have visited." Regarding women's military service, he insisted that there was no news and added: "The study I ordered shows the need to make a thorough review of all types of recruitment, which may include women."

He also stated that there is absolutely nothing related to a possible mobilization of the army and that precautions being taken are usual for the army. This, he said, is related to whatever external situation the country may be experiencing.

He also indicated the need to maintain the Tucuman area of operations, "because the army does not want to neglect this province just in case some foolish people want to repeat the unfortunate experiences of 1974 and 1975."

HARGUINDEGUY: NO PLAN NOW FOR PLEBISCITE ON FUTURE GOVERNMENT

PY2013192 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2043 GMT 20 Sep 78 PY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 19 Sep (NA)--Interior Minister Albano Harguindeguy has stated that a plebiscite to consider the "Argentina of the future" is not planned at the moment, but is "an idea to work on later."

Harguindeguy reasserted that armed forces participation "in the future democracy" is a goal, although "not to replace the government."

The minister commented today on these and other issues--such as the conditions under which political parties must meet, and the transfer of state-owned companies to the private sector, even in areas until now considered "taboo"--while answering questions at a luncheon held at a downtown hotel by the Association of Managers of Enterprises and Trade [ADEC].

Regarding his statement about a possible national defense council, Harguindeguy stated that "it was only a working proposal, but the objective is real and the armed forces will now have to discuss it with the people and find ways to implement it."

POLICE RELEASE CHILEAN REPORTERS AFTER BRIEF DETAINMENT

PY200312Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0148 GMT 20 Sep 78 PY

[Text of official communique released by the Rio Gallegos Provincial Police and signed by their director, Maj Mario Perez on 19 September]

[Text] Last Sunday, at approximately 1800, in response to reports that two individuals were visiting several sectors of our capital city taking pictures and gathering opinions about the current Argentine-Chilean conflict, several patrol groups were sent after the individuals who were detained as they entered a hotel in this city.

At the local police station they were identified as Francisco Celestino Eterovic Domic and Hector Osvaldo Espinoza Melendez, Chilean reporters.

Both Eterovic and Espinoza remained at the police station for approximately 2 hours, the minimum period necessary for routine procedures such as legal identification and verification of activities.

It should be pointed out that this action was taken in view of the fact that the authorities were unaware of the presence and activities of the two persons in this city.

After the situation was cleared up, and the minimum time to carry out the necessary procedures had passed, the two men resumed their normal activities.

MONTES WILL NOT ATTEND OAS SESSION ON NICARAGUA

PY200227Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0005 GMT 20 Sep 78 PY

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 19 Sep (NA)--Argentine Foreign Minister Oscar Antonia Montes will not participate in the foreign ministers consultative meeting called for 21 September in Washington by the OAS Permanent Council to discuss the situation in Central America. This is assumed following the report released at the San Martin Palace this afternoon, stating that Admiral Montes will leave for Washington on Friday, 22 September in the evening, and will then continue to New York, where he will arrive on Sunday to participate in the 33d UN General Assembly. At the OAS meeting to discuss the situation prevailing in Central America because of recent events in Nicaragua, Argentina will be represented by the head of the permanent mission to the OAS, Julio Cesar Carasales.

MARTINEZ DE HOZ DEPARTS FOR TOUR OF U.S.

PY192234Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2130 GMT 19 Sep 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Sep (NA)--Economy Minister Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz departed at 1825 for the United States via Santiago, Chile. Martinez de Hoz, whose first stop in the United States will be Los Angeles, will participate in the annual meeting of the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank. The economy minister will visit New York, Washington and Chicago, where he will also reinforce contacts with business sectors and private financial sources.

Reports Loan Repayment

PY2015522Y Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 20 Sep 78 PY

[Text] Argentine Economy Minister Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz said yesterday before leaving for the United States that his trip is taking place under excellent conditions at the foreign level--that is to say, at a time when the country's foreign reserves are in very good shape. He said: "The situation of the country's payments and trade balance is so good that yesterday we were able to pay off the $1 billion loan granted to us by a consortioum of U.S., Canadian, European and Japanese banks to overcome the crisis of our balance of payments."

The minister indicated: "This loan was cancelled 2 years before it was due, since it had been granted on a 4-year basis. This shows that the country's economic development is solid." Martinez de Hoz stated that he will attend the meetings of the World Bank and the IMF. He emphasized that Argentina's debt to this latter organization was also cancelled recently.

Martinez de Hoz indicated that "this goes to show the world Argentina's capacity for recovery and awakens trust, which in turn helps us to obtain better terms for the loans aimed at financing our large public projects and investments necessary for the development of the nation." The minister will also attend the dedication of the Los Angeles branch of the Buenos Aires Provincial Bank. Asked whether this was the first time an economy minister had travelled abroad under similar conditions, Martinez de Hoz stated: "I believe so, at least I cannot remember any precedent." He also pointed out something else: "This is the first time that an economy minister has attended these meetings of the World Bank and the IMF.'

ALSOGARARY OFFERS PLAN FOR INTEGRATION WITH CHILE

PY2018519Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1525 GMT 20 Sep 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 20 Sep--Former Economy Minister Alvaro Alsogaray today proposed the creation of an "Argentine-Chilean southern economic community" aimed at temporarily putting an end to the border conflict in the southern area at a time when "people are openly speaking of the possibility of war."

Alsogaray's proposal, which was published in today's LA PRENSA, indicates that this is not a final solution, but will maintain the current "status quo" for the time necessary to find "a new way which will permit us to understand each other without hurting either country."

He said he is "convinced that the negotiators for the two countries are doing the best they can to find a peaceful solution" and that it is time for "responsible men of the two countries to have their voices heard before it is too late." He made it clear that he is not only referring to government spokesmen, but also "to representatives of all leading classes at all levels."

Alsogaray proposed that the "status quo be maintained for an indefinite period," since this will mean that "the two countries will be able to maintain their current positions and claims without making territorial changes or explicit acknowledgment on matters under discussion."

He said that after this is achieved, "an Argentine-Chilean southern economic community which would operate in the territory and waters south of the Magellan Strait" should be created under the rotating chairmanship of delegates of the two countries with headquarters in Punta Arenas and Ushuaia, to concentrate exclusively on "administration of economic matters."

The commission would be in charge of joint exploitation of oil deposits, fishing resources, infrastructure projects and defense of the territorial rights of the two countries against demands by third countries in the Antarctic.

He added that this community "would be the first step toward complete integration of the two countries." These steps, according to Alsogaray, should be carried out in successive stages, beginning with a coal and steel community.

He indicated that joint work should be carried out in the petrochemical, wood, pulp and paper industries, in basic raw materials and specific products, and in reduction of customs barriers between the two countries until they are completely abolished.

He said that the same conditions should be offered to Bolivia, Paraguay and Uruguay to form a southern cone economic community.

In laying out the basis of his proposal, Alsogaray indicated that it is not a utopia and that based on the same idea "countries which had been enemies for thousands of years, like Germany and France, joined after three wars in less than a century to help form the European Economic Community."

He added that to achieve the goals which can be reached through common action "requires large investments and the extensive use of resources by each country in order to keep an area which is desired by other powers.

He said that "we have probably already spent, between the two countries, more than $1.5 billion in war preparation" and then added: "Figure out the great benefits we would have obtained by applying these resources to development of this proposed community."

Alsogaray added that a war between Argentina and Chile would be taken advantage of by socialism-communism, "a common enemy over shich the two countries have temporarily triumphed."

He indicated that it is up to Argentina to take the initiative "as a bigger country with greater resources" and that Chile must be made to understand that "our intention is right and sincere, but that this time we have reached the limit." He also said that "the Argentine people have never had any anti-Chilean feelings. They have never been too concerned with this conflict, which has been latent for many years, and they surely do not want a war. But there is no doubt that if war breaks out, the Argentine people will be behind their leaders."

In conclusion, Alsogaray warned that "the choice is very clear: cooperation which permits great economic development and definite social progress, or war which destroys the best of the two countries and opens the way to totalitarian Marxism."

BRIEFS

YUGOSLAV AGREEMENT APPROVED--Buenos Aires, 15 Sep (TELAM)--The Executive Branch today approved an agreement for economic and technical cooperation signed with Yugoslavia on 22 September 1977. A joint commission will periodically check the implementation of the agreement and will propose measures needed for economic and technical development between the two countries. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1527 GMT 15 Sep 78 PY]

COLOR TELEVISION in 1980--Buenos Aires, 15 Sep (AFP)--Color television will begin in Argentina early in 1980, it was reported in Buenos Aires today. The FRG PAL system will be used. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1123 GMT 15 Sep 78 PY]

BRAZIL OPPOSES OUTSIDE INTERVENTION IN NICARAGUA

PY210214Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0053 GMT 21 Sep 78 PY

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 20 Sep (AFP)--Brazilian Foreign Minister Antonio Azeredo da Silveira stated here today that his country will not support any form of intervention in Nicaragua by other countries. The head of the Brazilian Foreign Ministry made this statement in reply to questions by newsmen regarding the Brazilian position in face of the armed conflict which has broken out in Nicaragua. Azeredo da Silveira stated that interventions can no longer take place in Latin America and that it would be too dangerous to accept any intervention under any pretext. He noted that at the two meetings he held with the U.S. ambassador, "who asked to meet with me to discuss this matter, I told him that our position is to not support any measure implying intervention."

Azeredo da Silveira said that Brazil supported the creation of a commission of representatives of member countries of the Organization of American States (OAS) to investigate an air attack which was reportedly carried out by Nicaraguan planes, because the other Central American countries felt that peace and security in that region are in danger because of the situation in Nicaragua. Finally, he said that had the Central America countries not voted in favor of the resolution, Brazil would have abstained.

MDB DECIDES TO OPPOSE POLITICAL REFORMS

PY200240Y Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 20 Sep 78 PY

[Excerpt] The Brazilian Democratic Movement [MDB] will vote against the proposal on political reforms, but will single out those items which are acceptable. This decision was made tonight at a meeting attended by MDB President Ulysses Guimaraes and MDB leaders.

On leaving the meeting place tonight at 2030, Guimaraes said that the MDB made this decision in view of the government's intransigence. He also noted that the MDB wants to obtain the approval of an amendment proposed by Senator Accioly Filho--who proposed the elimination of the bionic senator--with the support of dissidents of the National Renewal Alliance. The National Congress today ended the discussion of the proposal on political reforms. The first round of votes will take place tomorrow beginning at 1500.

CONGRESS APPROVES REPEAL OF EXCEPTIONAL LAW

PY210155Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0044 GMT 21 Sep 78 PY

[Text] Brasilia, 20 Sep (AFP)--The Brazilian Congress today approved on the first ballot a constitutional amendment which repeals the current exceptional law and establishes mechanisms designed to defend the state and society.

Congress voted for and approved this constitutional amendment proposed by the Executive Branch and the government party, the National Renewal Alliance [ARENA]; with 241 votes for, and 145 against. The necessary absolute majority was 212 votes.

MDB SENATORS SEEK PROBE OF 'DER SPIEGEL' CHARGES

PY210222Y Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 20 Sep 78 PY

[From the "Congressional Report"]

[Text] Senators Paulo Brossard, Franco Monotro and Itamar Franco, of the Brazilian Democratic Movement [MDB], have proposed the creation of a Congressional Investigating Committee [CPI] to investigate the charges made by the German magazine DER SPIEGEL regarding the Brazilian nuclear program.

EXPORT INCENTIVE TO BE REDUCED IN FUTURE

PY201431Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 19 Sep 78 p 1 PY

[Text] Brazil is ready to reduce incentives for exports "very slowly and gradually," in a span of time not less than 5 years and beginning at the end of 1979 or the beginning of 1980, in case the multilateral trade negotiations underway in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade [GATT] reach a favorable result with respect to the elaboration of the subsidy code. The decision was made by President Ernesto Geisel yesterday during a meeting in the Planalto Palace with ministers from the economic field and Foreign Minister Azeredo da Silveira. This will be one of the positions which the Brazilian delegation will take to the negotiations in Geneva.

Minister Mario Henrique Simonsen said the president is aware that the U.S. position with respect to drawing up the code "has advanced a lot." The U.S. now accepts the inclusion of a damage clause in the implementation of compensatory rights, and recognizes the right of developing nations to subsidize their exports. During a conference held in Brasilia, Simonsen asserted that until 1985 "the most favorable setting would be a surplus in the trade balance greater than the deficit in the services, which would allow us to eliminate our current account deficit." He added that at that time Brazil could become a capital exporter with earnings of $1 billion annually, if the cost of services is reduced.

JET NOZZLE PROCESS TO BE TESTED IN BRAZIL

PY201529Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 19 Sep 78 p 17 PY

[Text] Brazilian Nuclear Corporations [NUCLEBRAS] has decided to test the jet-nozzle method of enrichment in Brazil instead of the FRG, as had been planned. Therefore, before building the enrichment plant in Resende, which is scheduled to begin operation in 1986, the company will build a pilot plant at the same site in order to test the process developed in the FRG. The plant planned for Resende, which NUCLEBRAS calls a "demonstration plant," will be built with 648 stages with the capacity to produce enriched uranium to supply the first three Brazilian reactors. The pilot plant which will be built first will have only 36 stages.

The decision to first build a pilot plant was made at the beginning of this year, and is designed to include Brazil in experiments on the enrichment process. The pilot plant is scheduled to begin operation in 1981-1982. The pilot plant will be located in Resende, in the same area as the fuels factory, the uranium hexaflouride factory, and the enrichment demonstrations plant. It will be located in an area of 60 alqueires which was expropriated at a cost of 30 million cruzeiros and has already been levelled at a cost of 33 million cruzeiros. The jet nozzle, an enrichment process which the FRG began to develop, belongs to the two countries on an equal basis after the signing of the nuclear agreement with Brazil. Right now the process is in the industrial development phase, with technicians trying to find ways to reduce the cost.

BRIEFS

DELEGATION TO UNGA--Foreign Minister Azeredo da Silveira will head the Brazilian delegation to the 33th UNGA session. [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 19 Sep 78 PY]

COMMUNIST PARTY MEMBERS ACQUITTED--Rio de Janeiro, 20 Sep (AFP)--A military court today acquitted Luis Carlos Prestes, secretary general of the pro-Soviet Brazilian Communist Party, and 63 others who had been charged with trying to reorganize this clandestine entity. [Paris AFP in Spanish 0037 GMT 21 Sep 78 PY]

FOREIGN MINISTER REPORTS U.S. EXTRADITION REQUEST

PY201918Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 20 Sep 78 PY

[Excerpts] U.S. Ambassador George Walter Landau has submitted an extradition request to the Chilean Foreign Ministry affecting three Chilean officers. Chilean Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos reported on the U.S. Ambassador's action during a press conference today:

[Cubillos--begin recording] I just want to point out that the U.S. ambassador has submitted documents concerning the extradition process requested by the United States regarding three Chilean officers. These documents must first be authenticated by this Foreign Ministry, which will then submit them, along with a complete and detailed report, to the Supreme Court.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] I believe that within 24 hours all the material pertaining to this case will be in the hands of the Supreme Court. [end recording]

The foreign minister reported that at the time the papers are submitted, the Supreme Court will be told that the detainees are at its disposal. While the foreign minister was holding the press conference, Deputy Foreign Minister Enrique Valdes was submitting the extradition papers to (Hernan Rios), Foreign Ministry legal adviser.

Foreign Minister Cubillos noted that this is a complex matter which needs careful study. At any rate the Foreign Ministry's involvement ends following the action initiated by the U.S. ambassador, once these papers are submitted to the Supreme Court.

Court Gets Request Thursday

PY210257Y Santiago Chile Cadena Agricultura in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Sep 78 PY

[Text] The documents which the U.S. Embassy submitted today to the Foreign Ministry regarding the extradition request affecting three Chilean officers will be submitted to the Supreme Court tomorrow, it was announced by the Foreign Ministry today. The over 400-page dossier containing the extradition request and evidence will be submitted to the court early tomorrow, since the signatures of the U.S. Government officials who requested the extradition have already been authenticated.

CUBILLOS ASSAILS NEWSMEN'S ARREST IN ARGENTINA

PY210024Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2310 GMT 20 Sep 78 PY

[Excerpt] Santiago, Chile, 20 Sep (AFP)--Chilean Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos today termed as absolutely improper conduct the detention of three Chilean journalists who were on assignment in southern Argentina. The arrest of the three Chilean newsmen does not contribute to the fraternal climate which should exist between the two countries, Cubillos said.

BRIEFS

ARMY PROMOTIONS--Santiago, Chile, 19 Sep (AFP)--Chilean President Augusto Pinochet today promoted three generals to the rank of lieutenant general, the first time this has been done in Chile. The action affects major generals Herman Brady, Cesar Paul Benavides and Carlos Forestier. [Paris AFP in Spanish 0011 GMT 20 Sep 78 PY]

GOVERNMENT FAVORS PROMPT SOLUTION IN NICARAGUA

PA201204Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 2223 GMT 19 Sep 78 PA

[Excerpt] Bogota, 19 Sep (EFE)--President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala said Colombia will mediate directly in the Nicaraguan conflict if the OAS does not impose sanctions on that country, according to a dispatch released today, Tuesday, by the NATIONAL COLOMBIA PRESS news agency.

According to the report, President Turbay Ayala said he had closely followed the Nicaraguan situation and was in favor of a prompt solution bringing peace and harmony.

LOWER HOUSE RESOLUTION TERMS SOMOZA 'UNDESIRABLE'

PA201825Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0250 GMT 20 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Bogota, 19 Sep (AFP)--The Colombian House of Representatives tonight declared Nicaraguan Chief of State Anastasio Somoza "an undesirable element in America." In a resolution approved by a plenary session, the congressmen also asked for national and continental solidarity with the Nicaraguan people and condemned the government's repression. It also asked the OAS and United Nations to condemn Somoza as responsible for genocide, torture and so forth, calling him the "executioner of the Nicaraguan people and violator of individual freedoms."

The resolution explains that it does not support any political or military group in Nicaragua and that it is a humanitarian appeal in favor of the inhabitants of that Central American nation. It concludes by expressing hope that the bloodshed will end soon and a representative government established.

Last week the Colombian Senate unanimously approved a similar resolution condemning Somoza.

NEW FOREIGN MINISTER NAMED; LIEVANO TO HEAD UN BODY

PA191611Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Senator Diego Uribe Vargas will be appointed the new foreign minister of Colombia shortly to replace Indalecio Lievano Aguirre, who will be elected chairman of the UN General Assembly. The announcement was made by President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala to newsmen today during an informal meeting following the awards ceremony for the national newsmens contest sponsored by Seguros Bolivar.

TURBAY AYALA SAYS VENEZUELA WILL JOIN METALLURGY PROGRAM

PA210428Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Sep 78 PA

[Excerpts] Medellin--President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala has officially announced the participation of Venezuela in the Andean Pact's metal and mechanical program.

Speaking at the opening of the fourth congress of the Colombian Metallurgical Federation, the chief of state affirmed: Now we can tell you the good news: Venezuela, in accordance with agreements mentioned before--which were signed by the presidents of the subregion--will form part of the metal and mechanical program before the end of the year. This, the president added, is a great source of pleasure for us. The president called for a change in the assignments given to Colombia in the Andean group's metal and mechanical field. He said this could result in added assignments that would satisfy the demands of the area and benefit Colombia.

REPRESENTATIVE WILL ATTEND OAS MEETING ON NICARAGUA

PA2019llY Paris AFP in Spanish 2036 GMT 19 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Quito, 19 Sep (AFP)--It was officially announced today that Ecuador will be present at the OAS foreign ministers meeting called for Thursday to analyze the Nicaraguan problem. Acting Foreign Minister Gustavo Ruales said today that "it is Ecuador's traditional policy to endorse any country's request that the consultation mechanisms established in the OAS Charter be set in motion."

The meeting on Thursday had been requested by Venezuela.

Regarding the measures that are proposed for the meeting, Ruales explained that "Ecuador's support will depend on their scope, usefulness and convenience and on their agreement with the basic principles of the system of American states, which should be duly implemented in order to strengthen their enforcement and avoid contradictions."

FRAUD CHARGES, COUP WARNINGS CONFUSE POLITICAL PICTURE

PA191749Y Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 19 Sep 78 PA

[Excerpts] The optimism elicited by the democratic restoration process and the installation of several sectional governments once again in recent hours have met with coup warnings by leaders of the most varied political sectors. Optimism also ran into the heavy and torturous beginning of the ninth week of votecounting and into repeated claims that major irregularities have occurred. Under these circumstances the Liberal Party is facing the risk of a schism of incalculable consequences.

This weekend the Supreme Electoral Tribunal will reveal the grounds for the charges of a major fraud allegedly committed in the 16 July presidential elections. A few hours ago tribunal President Rafael Arizaga said that he would make the announcement. Arizaga insisted on (?making his announcement) after discovering a new mistake during the slow and tortuous votecounting process for Guayaquil's Febres Cordero district.

In effect, the tribunal found that (?sterile) votes corresponding to Pichincha Province had been used in that district. This discovery led neoliberal leader Manuel Araujo Hidalgo to heatedly reiterate his charges of an alleged fraud and the intervention of the espionage organizations and the U.S. Embassy.

These statements by Arizaga and Araujo have been disclaimed by representatives of Jaime Roldos' candidacy. Leaders Rafael Marquez and Julio Cesar Trujllo have requested that the Guayas and Pichincha tribunals be asked to certify the documents they received. In this manner, they claim, the fraud charges will be disproved and it will be shown instead that the Supreme Electoral Tribunal itself made mistakes when distributing the documents.

Meanwhile, it was learned from Electoral Tirbunal sources that the other tribunal members do not support Arizaga in his investigation of fraud. If he does not have their backing, Arizaga will have to intervene on a personal level but without involving the tribunal. This, nonetheless, could lead to a crisis within the tribunal.

COPEI DENOUNCES PEREZ'S NICARAGUA POSITION

PA210259Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 2251 GMT 20 Sep 78 PA

[Excerpt] Caracas, 20 Sep (EFE)--COPEI [Social Christian Party], the principal opposition party, today accused the Venezuelan Government of "immoderate conduct" in the case of Nicaragua. Aristides Calvani, former foreign minister and COPEI's present international relations director, announced that his party would ask the government to "handle the Nicaraguan affair with great care." "Otherwise," Calvani said, "the Social Christian Party will reconsider the support it initially offered to President Carlos Andres Perez when he asked for the party's opinion regarding sending a fleet of Venezuelan planes to Costa Rican territory."

After emphasizing that Nicaraguan Christian Democrats have taken an active part in the political process of that country, Calvani disclosed that Roger Miranda, president of the Social Christian Party, has been imprisoned. The former Venezuelan foreign minister also expressed hope that "the Calvary of the Nicaraguan people will end as soon as possible."

COPEI presidential candidate Luis Herrera Campins said today that noisy, arrogant and warlike attitudes are not the most appropriate in the Nicaraguan case. However, the candidate expressed his solidarity with the Nicaraguan people and said Venezuelan support should be effective but calm to avoid international provocations.

CABINET DISCUSSES AID FOR NICARAGUAN VICTIMS

PA201537Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 20 Sep 78 PA

[Text] The Council of Ministers meeting in Miraflores, which was chaired by the president, carried out an in-depth analysis of the Nicaraguan situation, Information and Tourism Minister Celestino Armas reported at the end of the meeting. Dr Armas said the cabinet reviewed the Nicaraguan situation in detail. It studied Venezuela's proposals to the OAS and the international aid measures our country will take to provide medical assistance, food, drugs and clothing to help the many victims of the clashes in the area.

SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE REQUESTS AID FOR NICARAGUANS

PA210054Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2050 GMT 20 Sep 78 PA

[Interview with Maria Teresa Castillo de Otero Silva, chairman of the Venezuelan Committee of Solidarity With the Nicaraguan People, following her meeting with President Carlos Andres Perez--recorded]

[Excerpts] Did you have any suggestions for President Perez?

[Answer] First we went there to thank him on behalf of the committee for his efforts to help the Nicaraguan people. We also informed him of activities we are carrying out to collect funds, blood, drugs and everything that can be of use at this time. Also we wanted to know in what way we could organize all this to send it to Nicaragua.

[Question] Are you going to ask the Inter-American Human Rights Committee to set an earlier date for its visit to Nicaragua?

[Answer] By all means. This is very important. We are extremely worried that, while hundreds of Nicaraguans are dying, the committee has still not gone to Nicaragua.

[Question] What do you have to say about Somoza stating that the rebellion has been smashed?

[Answer] What else can he say? He controls the press and communications. He closes the border and then tells the world that he has smashed the movement--all in an effort to appear victorious in this conflict.

[Question] Do you think the liberation movement will win in Nicaragua?

[Answer] Of course. This is an action carried out by the people to get rid of 40 years of the Somozas' monstrous tyranny. We are optimistic that the Nicaraguan people will be able to get rid of the dictatorship.

PRESIDENT PEREZ DISCUSSES OIL AGREEMENT WITH USSR

PA202002Y Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 13 Sep 78 pp 1, 12 PA

[Excerpts] During a news conference held with foreign newsmen in Miraflores Palace yesterday, President Perez confirmed that Spanish Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez's visit to our country had revealed the intention of creating a closer relationship between the Iberian Peninsula and Latin America and played up agreements such as the one whereby Cuba is receiving Venezuelan oil.

French television's Philippe Chatenay asked: Mr President, Don Adolfo Suarez just returned to Madrid after a very pleasant trip to Venezuela and Cuba. Before the trip there had been talk of a possible tripartite agreement among Spain, the Soviet Union and Venezuela so that the latter would supply oil to Cuba. I would like to know more about Mr Suarez's visit to Caracas and this agreement.

The president answered: I gave my impression of the Spanish prime minister's visit to Venezuela right after it took place. It was a very pleasant visit, as you point out, and very beneficial for the growing relations between democratic Spain and Venezuela. I think everybody knows the great projects which we advanced and the concurrence that exists between Spain and Venezuela on many international policy matters. The goal we have set ourselves is to create a relationship that should have existed long ago between the Iberian Peninsula and Latin America or Spanish America, whichever it is called. Thus, all these circumstances contribute to the importance of the Spanish prime minister's trip to Venezuela as well as to the trips which the king has been making to various Latin American countries.

Oil Exchange

This is the result of my trip to the Soviet Union. We agreed that Venezuela and the Soviet Union could undertake a novel oil sales system, based on geographical areas. It is easier to ship oil to Europe from the Soviet Union than from Venezuela, and it is easier to ship Venezuelan oil to our area than to Europe. Therefore we agreed that Venezuela would sell a certain amount of Soviet oil to Europe, 10,000 barrels a day to begin with. Venezuelan oil is loaded onto Soviet ships and sent to the customer Venezuela wants. The Soviet Union has 10,000 barrels of oil a day in Venezuela which it can sell to its desired customer--in this case, Cuba.

EXILED SANDINISTS OUTLINE FUTURE STRATEGY

PA201937Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1617 GMT 20 Sep 78 PA

[By Francisco Rubiales]

[Excerpts] Panama City, 20 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--With its infantry forces almost intact, the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) is regrouping and preparing a second major offensive against Somoza, this time to liberate a large part of the country and establish a provisional government there.

Members of the Sandinist general staff and the Benjamin Zeledon Southern Front gave this information to ACAN-EFE this morning, while denying firmly that anti-Somoza forces were defeated in Nicaragua by the offensive staged by President Somoza and the National Guard against the cities.

"Our infantry is intact. We have the necessary strength to wipe out Somoza. The only thing we are waiting for is for Somoza to confront us, to send his Sherman tanks against us," said a member of the Sandinist general staff, who had his face covered with a red kerchief.

The Sandinist commander is in Panama, at the Tinajita Barracks, the headquarters of the Panamanian riflemen and commandos, after being deported by Costa Rica, where he had been arrested by the Civil Guard. Other Sandinist commanders who are in Panama and who said they were ready to leave for Nicaragua again, including Commander Gaspar Garcia Laviana, a Spanish priest, confirmed the statements made by the general staff commander. They predicted that Somoza "will not be able to resist the second offensive and will fall before the end of the year."

They denied that the occupation of six cities by Somoza's forces was a victory for the Nicaraguan National Guard, because "our fighters left them in time, almost without casualties, and our ranks were increased by thousands of new young fighters from those same cities." The official Sandinist version is that the objectives sought in the seizure of the cities were largely attained and that the only thing that failed was the expected fall of Somoza, which has not come about yet. The Sandinists say their losses were slight (less than 50) and that only 2 leaders were killed, Ulises Tapia and Ernesto Castillo, both commandants. They told ACAN-EFE that they have more than enough weapons to arm "that army of youths that has joined us" and that these arms include rocket launchers and heavy machineguns.

It appears that the new Sandinist army is regrouping at this time and resting while preparing tactical plans for a second offensive which, according to them, will conclude with Somoza's fall. With the termination of the operation to seize the cities, they say a new strategy lies ahead. To liberate a large piece of territory, make it impenetrable and establish a government and administration there controlled by the Sandinist front and bourgeois forces which now agree with its desire to eradicate the Somoza dynasty. The top Sandinist refused to provide more information on the place and time of the new offensive, but said it would be "soon."

Another new tactic revealed by leaders is attacks against prominent government leaders, especially against the National Guard's general staff, whom they intend to "execute" one by one. They said first on the list is Gonzalo Evertz, who has called himself the "Hero of Rio Blanco."

PARTIES ISSUE COMMUNIQUE ON AMENDMENTS

PA202210Y Panama City Radio Mia Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 20 Sep 78 PA

[Communique issued by the Panamenist, Panamanian Social Democratic and Christian Democratic parties, the Women's Patriotic Union and the Independent Democratic Movement 19 September 1978]

[Text] The parties and political groups issuing this manifesto denounce to the nation the failure of this autocratic system of government and the personality cult which has prevailed for the past 10 years. Conscious of our historic responsibility, we announce to the nation our decision to struggle--without any sectarianism--to reorganize the democratic institutions and legal order which are now broken.

In view of the expected failure of the high-level commission, the government's sponsorship of gross constitutional amendments aimed at perpetuating the dictatorship and the one person, arbitrary and unpopular appointment of the next president of the republic, we commit ourselves, united and without [words indistinct] to the common endeavor of securing for the nation the full application of a just and pluralist representative democracy. With this in mind we will struggle:

1. For the democratic and economic recovery of the nation, putting an end to the dictatorship which has sown confusion, improvisation, demagoguery and arbitrariness among us and which oppresses the Panamanian people.

2. So that public power will come from the people's will, expressed in honest elections and with the effective participation of political parties.

3. For public power to be exercised through the distribution of duties to be carried out with true independence by the executive, legislative and judicial branches and for the elimination of the constitutional provision which elevated the public force to the category of power of state.

4. For the president of the republic and all the members of the legislative branch to be elected simultaneously through direct, universal and equal voting and for these elections to be held immediately.

5. So that those serving in the judicial branch are qualified and so that this branch will have the autonomy and the resources it needs.

6. So that the legislative branch will again be given its mission of overseer as part of the duties which it traditionally possesses.

7. For an end to the control and monopolization of communications media by the dictatorship.

8. For respect and guarantees for freedom of expression, religion and opinion, freedom from fear and, in general, individual rights and human rights of all Panamanians and foreigners.

It is necessary to immediately set up a government which deserves the confidence of all sectors, with a previously established transition period that will undertake, with patriotic decision and without compromising delays, the task of national reconstruction so desired by all Panamanians, with only the present and the future of the fatherland in mind.

COSTA RICA

COSTA RICAN RADIO INTERVIEWS '12' MEMBER TUNNERMAN

PA191914Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 19 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Carlos Tunnerman, a member of the Nicaraguan Group of 12, has told this station that September is the key month for overthrowing Somoza. The Sandinist Front is not weakened because it is the people of Nicaragua who are struggling.

The Group of 12 will continue its struggle, he noted. We cannot permit the Nicaraguan National Guard to put the civilian population in front of the troops. The opposition is prepared to assume power and call elections. The Nicaraguan national radio communique claiming that there is a pact between the Sandinists and Costa Rica is untrue. Somoza's claim that only communism opposes him is false, Carlos Tunnerman said.

The world is astounded that the National Guard is massacring its own people. "Operation Cleanup" is operation genocide. Somoza has sentenced Nicaraguan youths to death, Tunnerman said. Tunnerman also asserted that the nationwide business strike will continue.

[Begin Tunnerman recording] Actually, many public sectors have joined the struggle headed by the Sandinist Front. In fact, in every city many people have taken up arms and all sectors are backing the struggle. The nationwide strike staged by Nicaraguan private enterprise to force Somoza to resign shows that this is not a struggle by a single sector or group of persons against the dictatorship but a struggle of an entire people against an oppressive regime. That is why we say that what is happening in Nicaragua is not a civil war, because a civil war implies the existence of two factions fighting each other. This is a war of liberation because it seeks the liberation of a people from an oppressive regime that is backed only by an army transformed into a pretorian guard, an army that has no conscience and is killing its own people. This is what has shaken world opinion, that the so-called National Guard, which is actually a pretorian guard, is killing the people of Nicaragua, its own brothers.

[Question] Will Somoza fall?

[Answer] We are convinced that the dictator's days are numbered. September is a (?special) month. In the history of Nicaragua we will have one more holiday in the month of September added to national independence day: The day of Somoza's downfall.

[Question] On what day do you think Somoza will fall?

[Answer] One cannot predict the exact day, but we believe he will not survive the month. [end recording]

PRESIDENT CARAZO TO DELIVER SPEECH AT UN

PA201230Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Sep 78 PA

[Text] President Carazo is going to the United Nations. The deputies unanimously granted him permission. This afternoon the president of the republic, as provided in Article 139 of the constitution, requested permission from the Legislative Assembly to leave the country for several days. President Rodrigo Carazo's visit to the United Nations 25-28 September was unanimously approved by general consensus. According to the president's request, Carazo will deliver a speech at the United Nations on (?peace), in addition to the present situation with Nicaragua.

U.S. SOUTHERN COMMAND CHIEF VISITS, MEETS CARAZO

PA191215Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 010 GMT 19 Sep 78 PA

[Text] The visit of the U.S. commander was a courtesy visit that had been planned for several months. The Interior Ministry expressed the need for equipment, principally helicopters, for rescue work and preventive health measures and the possibility of obtaining scholarships for education in coastal patrol. The visitor was the general commander of all U.S. military forces in the Southern Command. His visit has not connection with the incidents of the last few days. Nevertheless, this was also discussed.

The military commander's meeting this morning with Interior Ministry officials was described by the interior minister as a courtesy visit. The American was subsequently taken to the presidential house, where he met with President Rodrigo Carazo. He also met with the chief of the Civil Guard, Col (?Ramon Umana), with whom he discussed Costa Rican security.

Although the Nicaraguan situation was discussed, this was not the principal subject. The following is a statement by Interior Minister Juan Jose Echeverria concerning the meeting with the U.S. officer:

[Begin Echeverria recording] I am pleased to make this statement for Radio Reloj. This morning I received U.S. General McAuliffe in my office and later accompanied him to the presidential house. He is general commander of all U.S. Southern Command forces. General McAuliffe paid us a courtesy visit that had been planned for several weeks, I would say months, and is in no way connected with the incidents of the last few days. Nevertheless, they were logically one of the subjects discussed.

It was a courtesy visit by the general, who has his headquarters in Panama, to meet the new officials of the Carazo administration and to establish direct personal relations with us. We took advantage of the visit to discuss matters of common interest and several things in which the Costa Rican Government has special interest, such as the possibility of obtaining scholarships with the U.S. Coast Guard, since we are trying to establish as soon as possible a very efficient and professional coast guard. In this respect we discussed the possibility of obtaining scholarships in U.S. naval schools. We also discussed some equipment that we need. It is well known that we have been trying to obtain helicopters for resuce work, medical service and other reasons. [end recording]

El Salvador

ERP CLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY FOR EXPLOSION AT PCN BUILDING

PA191439Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1523 GMT 18 Sep 78 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 8 Sep (AFP)--A powerful bomb exploded early today outside the headquarters of the National Conciliation Party [PCN], the government party, damaging the PCN and neighboring buildings. Later, a person identifying himself as a member of the self-styled clandestine Revolutionary People's Army [ERP] phoned local newspaper offices and claimed responsibility for the attack.

UNIVERSITY DEAN KILLED IN CAPITAL; ASSAILANTS UNKNOWN

PA191603Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2136 GMT 18 Sep 78 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 18 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--Carlos Rodriguez, dean of El Salvador University's School of Economics, was shot several times at 1330 (1390 GMT) enroute to his residence, located a few meters from the national university. His automobile was riddled with bullet holes.

No extremist organization has claimed responsibility for killing Rodriguez.

ERP Attacks Chancellor's Car

PA202257Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2302 GMT 19 Sep 78 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 19 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--National Police last night thwarted another attack against Manuel Antonio Ramirez, chancellor [Fiscal] of the University of El Salvador, carried out near the National Zoological Park in the capital's southern downtown sector.

One civilian was killed and two persons were wounded during the incident. According to the official version revealed this afternoon, the chancellor's car was hit by machinegun fire but the official was not in the car at the time. According to this version, three individuals--two men and a women--opened fire on the chancellor's vehicle, which contained two university employees. The driver was wounded and, consequently, was sent to a health center.

The attackers are members of one of the subversive groups that operate in El Salvador, the official communique notes. After the attack on Ramirez' vehicle, the attackers fought members of the security force from a nearby post. A man was killed as a result of the shooting. Although he was not identified, national police information reveals that he was a member of the Revolutionary People's Army [ERP]. Police confirmed that the man confessed that he was an ERP member before he died and that he said his motto was to win or die. One of the wounded was Cristina Salguero Arriaza, a young lady who was admitted to the Rosales hospital.

HIGH COMMAND MEETS TO CURB INCREASING TERRORISM

PA201705Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1540 GMT 20 SEP 78 PA

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 20 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--The Salvadoran Armed Forces High Command is holding a meeting to adopt emergency measures concerning the rising wave of terrorism in this country. Extremist activities began on 16 September and increased today with three simultaneous attacks on security officers.

Subversives machinegunned national police posts in Zacamil, north of the capital, and Monserrat, south of San Salvador. A finance police jeep was attacked in the east. Two uniformed men were killed and two others were seriously hurt. [passage ommitted]

Security Forces on Alert

PA201706Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1653 GMT 20 Sep 78 PA

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 20 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--All Salvadoran security corps were placed on alert today due to an increase of extreme leftist actions. Reports from the interior of the country received by ACAN-EFE indicate that subversive distributed antidemocratic propaganda in at least 7 of the 14 Salvadoran department centers.

FARN Communique on Attacks

PA201906Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1847 GMT 20 Sep 78 PA

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 20 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--The clandestine Armed Forces of National Resistence [FARN] has claimed responsibility for this morning's attack on two police posts and a military vehicle.

FARN states in a communique left in the vehicle in which two policemen were killed that "Gen Carlos Humberto Romero's government is taking measures that are affecting the least favored classes." Another part of the message maintains that "El Salvador is offering its support to Gen Anastasio Somoza's government in Nicaragua."

HONDURAS

PADGETT DENIES TASS REPORT ON HONDURAN TROOPS IN NICARAGUA

PA200003Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2317 GMT 19 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 19 Sep (ACAN-EFE)--The Honduran Army has not sent any troops to Nicaragua and reiterates its neutrality in the internal affairs of other countries and its respect for self-determination.

Herman Allan Padgett, press secretary of the Honduran governing junta, made this statement to ACAN-EFE this afternoon after receiving international press dispatches mentioning such an intervention.

The report that over 1,700 Honduran soldiers had been sent to Nicaragua to fight on the side of the Nicaraguan National Guard was released by the Soviet news agency TASS.

"Those reports are absurd and a lie," Padgett said, "because they refer to Honduran military units we do not have and special forces we have never organized."

Padgett said that he was going to take advantage of the occasion "in talking to ACAN-EFE to invite all news agencies operating in Central America to confirm what the Honduran Government has said."

Annoyed and showing disbelief, Padgett said: "The military junta has told the world through every means of communication of its absolutely neutral position concerning Nicaragua's internal affairs, which we are again reiterating."

Padgett added: "We have a professional army. We are not a member of the Central American Defense Council (CONDECA). Therefore, the only way we could intervene in Nicaragua would be to turn our army into a mercenary army and that will never happen."

He added that besides being professional, "the Honduran Army is responsible and obedient to a government which perfectly understands the international commitments and agreements it has, commitments and agreements that oblige the states, among other things, to respect the sovereignty and integrity of other states."

In other government circles, the news created a state of shock. In the next hours and after a careful analysis of the serious accusation, the Honduran Armed Forces Staff may possibly issue a communique in connection with this matter.

Foreign Minister Denies Agreement

PA201803Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0325 GMT 20 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 19 Sep (LATIN)--Foreign Minister Roberto Palma Galvez confirmed today that he knows nothing about an alleged agreement with Guatemala and El Salvador which states that "no state can intervene either directly or indirectly in the domestic affairs of other states" in connection with the Nicaraguan crisis.

A report received from Washington cited the agreement, but according to Palma Galvez, "it is the first news I have had of this matter. I take advantage of this occasion to reiterate that we respect the principle of nonintervention in the domestic affairs of other nations."

The foreign minister made a statement for newsmen regarding the Nicaraguan situation and indicated that he would contact the Honduran charge d'affaires in Washington concerning this alleged tripartite declaration.

Honduras is an observing member of the Central American Defense Council, which is made up of Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

Foreign Minister Palma announced that, regarding his participation in the next UN General Assembly, Honduras will endorse the requests made by Costa Rica and Venezuela at the OAS in connection with the situation in Nicaragua. The minister explained that the Foreign Ministry is not handling the Nicaraguan refugee affair because that task will be handled by the Red Cross. He added that "the usual procedure will be followed" in connection with Sandinists who have turned themselves over to the Honduran Army.

The government has announced that, because the situation of those who identify themselves as Sandinists is eminently political, "they will have to subject themselves to the procedures established by our laws in connection with this matter and by the international agreements to which we are signatories."

For reasons of national security and in accordance with Honduras' strict maintenance of neutrality in the domestic affairs of neighboring countries, "the rebels who have turned themselves over or have been captured on Honduran territory will be subject to the corresponding procedure of interrogation and control while the national authorities decide on their treatment and destination in accordance with our laws," an official communique states.

FLEEING SANDINISTS TAKEN INTO CUSTODY AT BORDER

PA191205Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 19 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa--The government reported that 83 Nicaraguan guerrillas, including 3 women, surrendered to the Honduran Government at several points on the Nicaraguan-Honduran border. The Honduran Government's press secretary, Herman Allan Padgett, said that the members of the Sandinist National Liberation Front said that they were fleeing their country after exhausting their ammunition and food. He added that the Sandinists were initially sighted by the Honduran guards who are constantly watching the border with Nicaragua and that they ran toward the troops and surrendered.

NICARAGUA

SANDINIST FACTION ADMITS SETBACK IN FIGHTING

PA210416Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2321 GMT 20 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 20 Sep (AFP)--The popular Sandinist faction known as the Workers Front issued a clandestine communique today that implicitly acknowledges that its forces suffered a setback in the 10-day military insurrection against the Nicaraguan army.

The communique said that the Sandinist forces should "renounce the idea of achieving a quick victory and avoid hasty actions and provocation of the enemy."

The document emphasizes the need to join forces for a prolonged struggle that will permit the establishment of a national government with the participation of all anti-Somozist forces.

The Workers Front announced its decision to punish, as an enemy, any person or group that seeks to reach a compromise with President Somoza under the present circumstances.

Another clandestine communique issued by the rebels states that a second offensive will soon be launched to attempt to conquer a part of the national territory and proclaim a provisional government.

It claims that its military cadres remain intact and have lost only two of their commanders.

Mop-Up in Esteli

PA201714Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1612 GMT 20 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 20 Sep (AFP)--It was unofficially reported here today that after a night of violent fighting large Nicaraguan National Guard contingents were carrying out final mopping-up operations in Esteli, located 150 km north of Managua, this morning. By daybreak today, the Sandinists seemed to have completely withdrawn from the city after being besieged yesterday afternoon and evening by four aircraft, two B-33 jets [as received] and two Sikorsky helicopter gunships, which bombarded and machinegunned them. Hundreds of soldiers advanced toward the rebel positions after the air attack.

According to a number of persons who used the Pan-American Highway on Tuesday, intense fighting was taking place in the suburbs of Esteli. But reports received in the morning indicated that the resistance had ceased and that the rebels had withdrawn to the mountainous area close to the city, probably with the intention of entering Honduras.

In Managua, occasional bomb explosions could be heard at night after the curfew in several neighborhoods, but there were no reports of clashes with the military.

According to the army, an entire six-man Sandinist squad was killed Monday while battling military patrols in Las Palmas, in the southeastern part of the city. A soldier was also killed.

Radio Claims Tranquillity

PA201444Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1406 GMT 20 Sep 78 PA

[Public appeal]

[Text] Attention. This is a last-minute report. We hereby address this message to the citizens of Nicaragua:

There is absolute tranquillity and people are working in a normal fashion in Leon, Chinandega, Masaya as well as in the other cities which suffered the attacks of Sandino-communism. There is nothing to fear about further disruptions of peace, which has been reestablished with so much zeal and sacrifice by the National Guard.

Fellow citizens: Listen to this and analyze it. Your cowardice is the courage of the criminal. Uncertainty is a matter of life or death. Fight it, struggle, cooperate with the authorities.

Leon, Chinandega Roads Reopened

PA202226Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2051 GMT 20 Sep 78 PA

[Excerpt] Managua, 20 Sep (LATIN)--The government announced that it had recaptured Esteli, the last stronghold of the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN). "The Nicaraguan National Guard asks all persons having information on abandoned arms to notify the closest command post," said a National Guard communique issued while the soldiers were returning from Esteli, a city close to the Honduran border.

The roads to Leon and Chinandega were reopened to traffic today. The two cities were recaptured by the National Guard after fighting with the Sandinists. There were clashes in southeastern Managua but the results were not reported.

OAS 'Battle' With Nicaragua

PA201202Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2351 GMT 19 Sep 78 PA

[By Horacio Ruiz]

[Text] Managua, 19 Sep (AFP)--Nicaragua is preparing to prove that Venezuela helped to finance and organize two anti-Somozist strikes to make them coincide with the Sandinist military offensive, it was stated here today.

Government spokesmen affirmed that, after virtually controlling the guerrilla insurgency, the government of President Anastasio Somoza was preparing today for the diplomatic battle it must wage beginning Friday before the OAS.

In view of the imminence of the meeting requested by Venezuela at the seat of the OAS to discuss the situation in Nicaragua, Managua's official radio launched a campaign today to convince the people that the 11-day rebellion that affected five cities, including Managua, is a strictly internal matter.

It is felt in Nicaragua--in the wake of the statements by the U.S. State Department--that the United States supports Venezuela concerning a mediation plan not only related to the threat of a war between Nicaragua and Costa Rica, but also to an internal conflict which diplomats call "the determinant situation of Nicaragua."

Spokesmen for the Broad Opposition Front (FAO), made up of all civilian groups opposed to Somoza, expressed their confidence today that "the United States will demand a review of the Nicaraguan political problem at the OAS meeting."

The FAO has appointed Rafael Cordoba, Alfonso Robelo and Sergio Ramirez as its representatives in any continental mediation.

Sources close to the FAO believe that in the event of negotiations on Nicaragua's future, the United States will try to impose an agreement in which the opposition front will renounce its demand that Somoza abandon power immediately and the Nicaraguan president would agree to cut short his term which should end in 1981.

According to political observers here, Somoza seemingly admitted U.S. pressure today when he told newsmen in Miami that there was no need for the OAS meeting and that it has been convened exclusively against his government.

In case its efforts to mediate in Nicaragua fail, Venezuela reportedly will try to obtain sanctions against Somoza's government, accusing it of exerting severe repression, it is believed here.

These sanctions might be a declaration of condemnation and a collective break of relations.

Such a request would require a two-thirds vote for approval, but it is felt that the southern cone countries would not approve it.

Sandinist Warns of U.S. Intervention

LD201331Y Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 15 Sep 78 p 2 LD

[Rafael Fraguas interview with Nicaraguan Sandinist National Liberation Front spokesman Miguel Castaneda: "Sandinistas warn of possible U.S. intervention"--date and place not specified]

[Text] Nicaraguan Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] official with responsibility for Europe Miguel Castaneda is in Spain. Castaneda, a doctor born in Managua 30 years ago, has come to our country to hold contacts with the democratic political forces in search of solidarity. Our colleague Rafael Fraguas talked with him.

"The aim of my visit, in addition to seeking solidarity from the Spanish political forces, is to warn those forces of the danger threatening Nicaragua of a military intervention sponsored by U.S. imperialism."

"Nicaragua," he said, "is in a state of war openly declared by the entire people and their vanguard, the FSLN, against Somoza's military dictatorship. The regular FSLN forces have taken over the strategic cities of Chinandega and Leon, as well as the northern city of Esteli. In the south, the front controls a large section of the most important road in the country--the Pan-American Highway--and of the city of Rivas." "We know," he continued, "that we have a powerful enemy, who is technically and materially better equipped than ourselves, but we are pitting against this enemy our strategic, political and moral superiority."

"Moreover, this is not a struggle with an exclusively military dimension. The country is experiencing an indefinite workers' general strike and an employers' strike which is also indefinite. The entire people of Nicaragua are determined to end the dictatorship." Concerning the guerrillas' strength, the Sandinist leader stated that the FSLN's regular forces are composed of 1,500 men with military training. The Sandinist people's militias, comprising workers, students and peasants, whose constant harassment of the enemy provides a screen for the regular forces' military action, operate as auxiliary forces, he stated.

He also stated that the guerrillas are using 120-millimeter light artillery. In connection with external support, Castaneda said that [words apparently dropped in newspaper] "the Cuban people and their government, as well as of the entire socialist camp, they receive moral solidarity like that of some democracies such as Venezuela, Mexico and the nationalist governments of Panama and Jamaica."

Moreover, we have the solidarity of all antifascists and anti-interventionists throughout the world."

[Question] Nicaraguan National Guard General Jose Ivan Allegret recently died in an accident. Did the Sandinist front have any part, directly or indirectly, in his death?

[Answer] No. That general's death is part of the contradictions shaking Somoza's army. Allegret, a member of the General Staff of the National Guard and chief of army operations, as well as chief of military intelligence, uncovered a plot within the army to overthrow Somoza, in which dozens of field officers were involved, of whom 80 have been arrested. Somoza was informed of the plot and the conspirators, denounced by the general and his aides, interfered with the controls of the aircraft and caused the accident leading to his death.

"Unless a U.S. military intervention occurs, I believe that the war will not last beyond the end of the year," Castaneda said. "U.S. interference could force us to undertake protracted resistance. With respect to intervention by CONDECA, the United States is doing its utmost to bring this about."

Concerning the front's political alternative, Miguel Castaneda stated that its ultimate strategic objective is national and social liberation. "In order to achieve this objective, we know that we must pass through various stages, and the most immediate stage is the overthrow of the dictatorship and the establishment of a democratic and people's government." "Once the priority military objective--winning the war--has been achieved," he continued, "the first stage is the establishment of a democratic provisional government headed by the 'Group of 12,' which will accomodate the various forces that have resolutely participated in overthrowing the dictatorship."

Panamanian Forces on Border

PA210225Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0141 GMT 21 Sep 78 PA

[By special correspondent Andres Tiempo]

[Excerpts] Managua, 20 Sep (AFP)--It was reported here today that some 100 members of the Panamanian security forces are concentrated on the Costa Rican border with Nicaragua.

The infantry forces are reportedly supported by air combat units and armed helicopters and are reportedly stationed on the borders of the San Juan River and Cocibolga Lake (Nicaragua's great lake), as well as near the twon of La Cruz on the Pan-American Highway.

From Managua to the town of Penas Blancas, the last Nicaraguan town on the road to Costa Rica, there are vestiges of the latest confrontations between the National Guard and groups of rebels, presumably leftist guerrillas.

This reporter was told that dozens of Panamanian military personnel can be seen on the Costa Rican side, as well as light tanks and helicopters deployed in strategic places.

On the other hand, Gen Anastasio Somoza's government reiterated today that the situation is under control and that only small pockets of subversives remain.

Business, industrial and banking sectors have expressed fear that new taxes will be established in the near future to cover the costs of the war.

Fear of a 100 percent devaluation of the cordoba began to spread in the private sector as people calculated monetary withdrawals and the loss of capital and the increase in the foreign debt and the issuance of currency.

At present the dollar is worth 7 cordobas.

Anti-Costa Rica Campaign Launched

PA201210Y Managua Estacion X in Spanish 0031 GMT 20 Sep 78 PA

[Text] A nationalist and patriotic movement to keep Nicaraguans from visiting Costa Rica and spending money there, in a country that has demonstrated an uncalled-for enmity toward Nicaraguans, is being promoted in our country.

The movement, called Operation Fatherland, is being organized by well-known Nicaraguan journalists and intellectuals with the support of diverse Nicaraguan labor and professional organizations.

Operation Fatherland will conduct a publicity campaign to dissuade Nicaraguans from going to Costa Rica to spend money and to eliminate Nicaraguan tourism to that ungrateful country, enemy of the Nicaraguans.

Operation Fatherland will advise Nicaraguans not to spend money in Costa Rica, not to visit that country and to avoid trade with them. The first slogan of Operation Fatherland is: If you want to be a good Nica, do not visit Costa Rica.

Cuban 'Campaign' Criticized

PA201414Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0343 GMT 20 Sep 78 PA

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The Cubans are maintaining their campaign against our government. We are not surprised, however, because there have been systematic, although completely false, attacks since Fidel Castro took over that long-suffering Caribbean island.

We refer to one of the latest falsehoods: According to Radio Havana, 700 Nicaraguan soldiers have deserted in view of the devastating and triumphant Sandinist attack. How deluded! Poor liars! Only they could think the Sandinists are winning in Nicaragua. We would like them to know that those who have fled in terror, those who have run like terrified cows, are the Castroite Sandinists.

Nicaraguan soldiers and officers are loyal. They have heeded the call to defend the country. They die defending peace lest the country fall prey to international communism.

The army's loyalty is clearer today than ever before. Each soldier remains in his position ready to defend our sovereignty.

Spain Ends Arms Sales

PA201235Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Spain has given considerable military aid to Somoza, but has now ended further assistance to Nicaragua. (COMAT) supplies Somoza with arms. Telephone conversations held with Spanish journalist (Mir), of the Spanish magazine QUE, reveal that the (COMAT) company, established on 16 June 1965 and owned by one of the wealthiest fascist families in Spain, has supplied large amounts of war materiel to Somoza. These included land, naval and air armaments as well as communications equipment. As a result of the Nicaraguan emergency, Somoza requested more arms from (COMAT) but Prime Minister Suarez's government has prohibited arms sales to Somoza.

Mr (Mir), editor of the Spanish magazine, added that an account has been opened at the Monte Piedad savings fund in Madrid to help the Sandinist National Liberation Front. Meanwhile, a support demonstration in which more than 1,000 persons participated was held in Spain.

Alfonso [names indistinct] are the owners of (COMAT). The Spanish Government does not permit the sale of more arms to Somoza, said Mr (Mir).

Economic Losses, Food Shortages

PA191952Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 19 Sep 78 PA

["Report from Managua"--recorded]

[Excerpts] The country is beginning to feel the effects of the economic crisis. In the countryside enormous losses are also expected, chiefly in cotton plantations where, since hostilities started in the country, not a single cotton plant has been fumigated, even though the nation's foreign exchange largely depends upon cotton exports and coffee. Cotton growers say that crop dusting is extremely important during September, but crop-dusting planes have not been permitted to fly in the cotton-growing departments of Chinandega and Leon.

The situation is similar to that after the 1972 earthquake except that the crisis is affecting not only Managua but the entire country. Hunger is being felt. Hundreds of persons yesterday looted warehouses in the port of Corinto for food. Hungry mobs broke into the two port warehouses and stole at least 20,000 cases of beef belonging to a slaughterhouse owned by General Somoza. They also made off with merchandise of all kinds. Owners of the merchandise are estimating their losses today.

In the meantime, the food shortage continues. Enourmous lines of people stand outside the government's basic grains institute to obtain rice, beans and corn. There has also been looting in several houses in Managua.

CASTRO HOLDS TALKS WITH LIBYAN, ALGERIAN LEADERS

FL201115Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 20 Sep 78 FL

[Excerpt] Our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has arrived in Algeria for a friendly working visit. Fidel arrived in Algiers from Libya where he made a stopover and was received at Ad-Dar al-Bidha airport by Algerian chief of state Houari Boumediene and other leaders of the government and National Liberation Front.

During a stopover in Tripoli, Fidel held a friendly meeting with Libyan chief of state Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Popular enthusiasm over the visit of the chief Cuban leader could be noted in Algiers, whose streets and 25-km route to the airport were decorated with Cuban and Algerian flags and photographs of Fidel and Boumediene.

At the meeting which our commander in chief held with the Libyan chief of state, the two chiefs of state examined problems of mutual interest in connection with the current international situation, the nonalined countries movement and the new situation being faced by the Arab cause and Palestinian people. Fidel reported to the Libyan leaders the results of his visit to socialist Ethiopia. They also examined aspects of bilateral relations.

In Algiers, our commander in chief met with President Houari Boumediene. Their first meeting was held at the people's palace and a second at the residence of the chief of the Cuban revolution. The Cuban and Algerian sides had a cordial exchange of viewpoints and examined topics of mutual interest. Upon arrival in Algeria, Fidel asserted that the Camp David agreement resulting from the meeting between James Carter, Anwar as-Sadat and Menahem Begin is the consummation of betrayal of the Arab peoples. He said that during this visit to this African country he will examine with Algerian leaders the current status of the world progressive movement and the nonalined countries movement.

Commander in Chief Fidel Castro added that he will inform Boumediene on his visit to Ethiopia and that they will discuss international problems and the new situation created by the Camp David agreement. The head Cuban leader visited Algeria for the first time in May 1972 on an official visit and made a second visit in May 1973.

Fidel Arrives in Havana

FL210059Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Sep 78 FL

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, this afternoon returned to the fatherland following a 10-day tour of Ethiopia, Libya and Algeria. At 1840 hours [2240 GMT], as these pictures show, the IL-62-M Aeroflot plane transporting our commander in chief shut down its jet engines at the airport in Rancho Boyeros [Jose Marti International Airport]. Fidel was welcomed by Army Gen Raul Castro, second secretary of the PCC Central Committee; Armando Hart, Ramiro Valdes, Blas Roca, Osvaldo Dorticos, Sergio del Valle, Pedro Miret, Guillermo Garcia, Jose Ramon Machado Ventura and Arnaldo Milian--all members of the Politburo--along with members of the PCC Secretariat and Central Committee. During his short stop at the airport terminal Fidel commented on his impressions of his long trip through African lands.

HAVANA COMMENTS ON CASTRO'S VISIT TO ETHIOPIA

PA1919417Y Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Sep 78 PA

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Fidel Castro has once again visited Ethiopia, the revolutionary African country which, since the victory of its revolution 4 years ago, has demonstrated its antifeudal, anti-imperialistic and anticolonialist stand and its identification with the socialist community, the world's labor classes and progressive forces all over the world in the vanguard of struggle against imperialism. Fidel's latest visit to Ethiopia--18 months after seeing that country during his tour of several African nations in March 1977--has been highly meaningful to both Ethiopians and Cubans.

The central ceremony commemorating the fourth anniversary of the Ethiopian revolution held special significance for revolutionaries all over the world. During this event chief of state Mengistu Haile Mariam described the Cuban leader as the first among Ethiopia's true friends. The commemoration of that anniversary also constituted a moving tribute to the solid and indestructible friendship that exists between the two countries, which has been sealed with the blood of Ethiopians and Cubans who fell while fighting the Somali invaders in the Ogaden Desert and other places. The Somali regime had received full support from imperialism and its reactionary Arab allies in its attempt to dismember Ethiopian territory and crush the antifeudal and anticolonialist revolution.

In his speech, delivered in Addis Ababa on 12 September before more than 500,000 people, Mengistu Haile Mariam reiterated Ethiopia's right to request and receive aid and support from its friends in order to counteract all actions, regardless of where they originate. The Ethiopian revolution is for all peoples one of the most significant events that has ever taken place in Africa because it has meant an extraordinary change in the lives of its people. It freed millions of exploited peasants and the labor class and put an end to a social structure inherited from the feudal regime. It is also important to note that its leaders chose to move along the path of socialism. Thus, the Cuban people and government admire the Ethiopian people for their antifeudal and anti-imperialistic stand under the leadership of Mengistu Haile Mariam, president of the Provisional Military Administrative Council, who has decided to carry out the historic task of bringing about a genuine socialist revolution.

For true revolutionaries, internationalist solidarity does not acknowledge either the distances or obstacles that the enemy might interpose to the joint action of the peoples aimed at their final liberation. It is for this reason that Cuba has given and continues to give its broadest cooperation to Ethiopian revolutionaries. This cooperation is not limited to the military field but includes other areas as well, such as public health. On several occasions the Cuban revolutionary leaders, particularly Fidel Castro, have reiterated that our principled positions regarding solidary internationalism will never be negotiable. The truth is that those peoples who decide to fight for socialism today should find the help and support of other nations which chose the same path before, because the enemy has shown revolutionaries the world over that peoples must join ranks in order to confront the attacks of imperialism. That need was confirmed in recent years in Angola and Ethiopia, two African countries which, as a result of choosing the path of socialism, had to resist invasions by South African reactionary racists and the Zairian and Somali regimes. But bravely employing their full self-determination and independence, both governments requested the aid of revolutionaries from other countries. It is for this reason that Fidel Castro's visit to Ethiopia undoubtedly constitutes a new step toward strengthening the friendship between our two peoples and a new defeat for international imperialism in its attempts to crush the process of revolutionary changes.

COMMENTARY CITES CHINA AS ENEMY OF AFRICAN LIBERATION

FL191240Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Sep 78 FL

[Miguel Rivero commentary]

[Text] The international conference of solidarity which ended yesterday in the Ethiopian capital served to reaffirm unity among liberation movements, the socialist countries and the world's most progressive forces, as well as to clarify and expand even more some positions on anti-imperialism and condemnation of the open betrayal by the Chinese leaders.

Our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro and Ethiopian chief of state Mengistu Haile Mariam participated in the opening session of the conference attended by representatives of 138 national, regional and international organizations. The conference has been described as the most important of its type held so far on the African continent.

In a brief speech at the conference, Fidel pointed out that the conference was being held at a time when imperialism is most concerned with Africa. The situation in this region, Fidel added, will influence the international detente process and will determine the future of African and Arab peoples on the path of the struggle of countries which are fighting to consolidate their national independence.

The general declaration of the conference released yesterday demonstrates maturity and depth of revolutionary thinking, which was the principal characteristic in all the debates and was manifested in the resolutions adopted. The unqualified support which the conference offered to the liberation movements of Zimbabwe and Namibia and the solidarity expressed toward the African National Congress of South Africa are particularly important. Another vital aspect refers to the unity of action between the forces of socialism and national liberation movements, [with the declaration] pointing out that this unity now has become a factor of fundamental importance for world development and progress. This reaffirmation is especially significant, particularly at this time when some forces calling themselves progressive are trying to undermine the solidarity and unity between the socialist countries and liberation movements.

The reality of recent history, which can be appreciated in the victories of the Angolan and Ethiopian revolutions, shows the unavoidable need to strengthen and preserve this unity between the forces of socialism and liberation movements.

The conference clearly condemned the complicity of Chinese leaders in the acts of aggression against Angola and Ethiopia and their expansionist policy against socialist Vietnam. According to the final declaration, the anti-Soviet position of the Chinese leaders does not help the cause of the national liberation movement. This declaration, adopted unanimously by representatives of progressive organizations and movements of 110 [as heard] countries takes on the character of a final epitath to the intentions of Peking's new mandarins, who still are trying to deceive the unwary with an apparently anti-imerpialist phraseology. The Addis Ababa conference has served to once again unmask the Chinese leaders. Moreover, this has acquired a new dimension since for many years the Peking mandarins tried to confuse and divide thenational liberation movement in Africa. Taking into account these positive and clearly anti-imperialist features [of the declaration], it can be undoubtedly asserted that the conference in Addis Ababa was a new victory for the African and Arab peoples.

SUGAR DONATION TO YEMEN NOTED BY YEMINI

FL182211Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2205 GMT 18 Sep 78 FL

[Text] 'Ali Nasir Muhammad al-Hasani, chairman of the Presidential Council and prime minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, has expressed gratitude to the Cuban Government for its donation of 10,000 tons of sugar. The Yemeni leader expressed his gratitude to the Cuban people when he met with a Cuban delegation led by Transportation Minister Antonio Enrique Lusson.

Accord Signed

FL181822Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1814 GMT 18 Sep 78 FL

[Text] Antonio Enrique Lusson, president of the Cuban-Arab friendship association, has left Democratic Yemen after a visit of several days. During his stay, Lusson and Democratic Yemen officials signed an agreement on air and maritime transportation, economic and cultural cooperation between the two countries.

MONTANE MEETS WITH GUINEA-BISSAU DELEGATION

FL152050Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2043 GMT 15 Sep 78 FL

[Text] Jesus Montane Oropesa, member of the PCC Central Committee and chief of its department for servicing mass organizations, has met with Joao Bernardo Vieira, member of the standing committee of the African Independence Party of Portuguese Guinea and Cape Verde--PAIGC. The PAIGC representative was accompanied by Armed Forces Secretary General (Onorio Chantri Jorges). PCC Central Committee member Col Pedro Rodriguez Peralta attended the meeting. At the meeting, conducted in a friendly and fraternal atmosphere, the visitors were briefed on the content and role of mass organizations in our society and methods employed for their relations with the party. Comrade Roger Lopez of the PCC Central Committee department for servicing mass organizations also participated in the meeting.

Delegation Ends Visit

FL161832Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 16 Sep 78 FL

[Text] Maj Joao Bernardo Vieira, member of the standing committee of the African Independence Party of Portuguese Guinea and Cape Verde (PAIGC), president of the National Popular Assembly and commissioner of armed forces of Guinea-Bissau, has left for his country. (Onorio Chantri), secretary general of the armed forces of that African nation, also returned home. Both spent several days in our country. They were seen off at the air terminal by Div Gens Senen Casas Regueiro, first vice minister-chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR) general staff, and Abelardo Colome Ibarra, vice minister of FAR, both of them members of the PCC Central Committee and Council of State. Others who saw them off included PCC Central Committee member Faustino Perez and Guinea-Bissau Charge d'Affaires in Cuba (Ulises Monteiro).

NATIONAL WORK HERO WELCOMES GUS HALL

FL182342Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2308 GMT 18 Sep 78 FL

[Text] U.S. Communist Party General Secretary Gus Hall and the delegation that is accompanying him have visited the Valles de Picadura livestock breeding farm located east of Havana Province.

Ramon Castro Ruz, national work hero and director of the farm, and his livestock officials, welcomed the visitors and explained the development and objectives of the dairy district. Castro Ruz later accompanied the visitors on a tour of the Valles de Picadura installations, including a mechanical milking dairy, tourist [word indistinct] and Pena de Leon community, where they visited with the presidents. Lastly, U.S. Communist Party General Secretary Gus Hall and his delegation went to the Victoria de Vietnam residential district of the Ceiba Mocha community and talked with the peasants of the area.

CUBAN, SOVIET DELEGATIONS RETURN FROM MEXICO

FL201307Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1244 GMT 20 Sep 78 FL

[Text] The Soviet and Cuban delegations which participated in commemorative activities marking the 168th anniversary of the proclamation of Mexican independence have returned to our country on a special Mexican Air Force flight. The Cuban delegation was headed by Div Gen Rigoberto Garcia, member of the PCC Central Committee and vice minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, while the USSR delegation was led by Air Marshal Yevgeniy Savitskiy, twice Hero of the Soviet Union.

FOREIGN DELEGATES INVITED TO ATTEND 14TH CTC CONGRESS

FL201028Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 20 Sep 78 FL

[Text] Jesus Escandel, member of the executive secretariat of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers (CTC) and chief of its international relations department, has announced at a press conference held at the CTC that a total of 107 national and international trade union organizations with 134 delegates have been invited to participate in the 14th CTC congress to be held in Havana from 28 November to 2 December. Escandel explained that 35 of these delegates will represent the socialist camp countries, 25 Africa and Middle East, 49 Latin America, Caribbean, United States and Canada, 12 Western Europe and 6 Asia. He added that the delegates will begin arriving on 25 November and will enjoy a broad program of visits to work places and other points of interest.

Further Details

FL201133Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 20 Sep 78 FL

[Excerpt] Rosario Fernandez, alternate member of the PCC Central Committee and member of the CTC executive secretariat, has announced that 2,104 delegates, 400 guests and representatives of 70 countries will attend the 14th CTC congress.

ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR TOURS CIEGO DE AVILA

FL202233Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 20 Sep 78 FL

[Text] Wondimagegnehu Aemero, ambassador from socialist Ethiopia to Cuba, has toured economic and educational centers in Ciego de Avila in response to an invitation from the Ciego de Avila chapter of the Cuban Institute of Friendship with the Peoples. The diplomat, who was accompanied by his wife and the second secretary of the embassy, visited the cattle enterprise on the island of Turiguano, the secondary urban school, the food complex being built in the capital of Ciego de Avila and the Ceballos citrus enterprise. Afterward, the ambassador held a conference with the PCC provincial bureau and leaders of mass organs and organizations in Ciego de Avila, at which he referred to the revolutionary process in the fraternal African nation.

CORRECTION TO TEXT OF CASTRO ADDRESS IN ADDIS ABABA

The word "triumph" was accidentally deleted from page Q 4, line 26 of the Castro speech published in the 20 September Latin American DAILY REPORT.

JAMAICA

SEAGA SAYS GOVERNMENT FAILING ECONOMIC TEST

FL191355Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 15 Sep 78 pp 1, 17 FL

[Excerpts] Opposition Leader Edward Seaga attacked the government for failing to understand that its principal role and purpose was not to pass IMF "paper" tests, but to successfully restore growth to the economy, which was the real test set by the IMF, according to a JLP [Jamaica Labour Party] release. Mr Seaga said that the country was not being told that in order to pass the IMF "paper" tests in September the government was "squeezing the guts out of the country," as a result of which we were failing the real test to restore growth in production.

Mr Seaga was speaking to a crowd of some 30,000, by police estimate, assembled in Mandeville Square on Wednesday night for a JLP 35th anniversary rally. He said that the minister of finance was asking the country to take comfort from the expectation that the country will pass the September IMF tests.

While the IMF tests had to be passed, it was deceptive, he said, to give the impression that this was being done in a manner which still allowed the economy to achieve growth, the real test. "This year alone," Mr Seaga said, "the economy would show a further minus 10 percent in real growth--that is, virtually as bad as all the last five years put together. How then can we talk about passing the IMF test when we are failing the principal test in the most disastrous fashion."

Mr Seaga told the crowd that at exactly this time last year Mr Coore as finance minister was telling the Commonwealth finance ministers meeting in Barbados that "the Jamaican economy had turned the corner and was on the improve."

He had immediately challenged the statement by advising that the economy would show another year of negative growth last year and that the reserves would deteriorate further to minus $200 million.

Mr Seaga urged the meeting to understand that there was no hope except through the ballot box, and unless the electoral system was clean, those who were hungry would remain hungry and those who were jobless would find no work.

The JLP had taken a decision never to contest elections until the electoral system was free and fair. This decision was a mandate from the last general conference in November, 1977, and was binding on the party. Nevertheless, because it was essential to keep the party machinery in a state of readiness, caretakers of constituencies and parish council divisions were being appointed as the party wanted its organizational thrust to be islandwide in taking the issues to the people. To ensure this islandwide thrust, the JLP had planned 100 public meetings between the beginning of September and mid-November, at village, town and city levels.

Meanwhile, talks were going on with the PNP [People's National Party] concerning electoral reforms and some headway had been made, but not sufficient to produce full agreement. If full agreement on electoral reforms was reached with the PNP, the JLP would once again contest elections, but the JLP will not change its position, which was a mandate by the people, unless agreement was reached. This was what the party secretary, Bruce Golding, had also said in different words, but some people were misreading his statement to suit their own purpose. Jamaica, he said, will continue to stand in the glaring searchlight of the free world as an exposed country, naked of the fundamental political right of democracy unless it took the steps necessary to provide a free and fair system.

BOLIVIA

ARMED FORCES 'CONCERNED' OVER DOMESTIC EVENTS

PY201332Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 20 Sep 78 PY

[Text] The armed forces have expressed to the government their concern and apprehension over recent political and social events which might endanger the democratization process of the country. This has been reported by Interior Minister Faustino Rico Toro.

The minister cited the following as disquietening factors: excessive salary demands out of proportion to the economic possibilities of the country; social unrest, particularly in the mining districts; and lack of understanding of the full scope of the climate of broad democracy which the government is introducing.

Rico Toro said that he wished to explain those points of view in an informal way and for reflection, since all we Bolivians have a responsibility to the country, now that we are emerging from 7 years of verticalism.

He justified the political measures the regime is taking and identified himself with the voices heard among the military that the full scope of the climate of democracy the government is seeking is not understood.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

PRESIDENT GUZMAN REPORTS ON ECONOMIC SITUATION

FL202105Y Santo Domingo Domestic Service in Spanish 0015 GMT 20 Sep 78 FL

[President Antonio Guzman Fernandez's address to nation on 19 Sep--live]

[Summary] "Dominican people: One month has elapsed since my inauguration and I believe it is my duty to address the nation to report on the economic situation we found when we assumed the presidency and explain the plan of action which my government will implement during the next 4 months. Due to the delay in reporting the results of the elections, economic activity virtually reached a standstill from 16 May to 16 August, causing a reduction in fiscal collections." Added to this situation, the previous administration issued instructions stopping all payments for ongoing projects unless they were ordered by specific directives.

The result of this type of action was that the cost of projects increased from 15 million pesos per month during the first 7 months of the year to more than 33 million pesos during the first 10 days of August. This means that in a period of 10 days the government had to spend more than twice the amount it had paid out in 1 month. "As a result of the previous administration's policies, the government reserves were almost totally depleted in order to pay for that extraordinary volume of expenses. By 10 August the reserves were down to 10 million pesos from the 47 million on hand in July." In addition, during the electoral campaign and following the elections there were many cases of overdrafts against the reserves without apparent justification.

There is another type of debt, a domestic debt in this case, which deserves our attention. These are funds owed to autonomous institutions by the central government. We have initiated negotiations to satisfy all past debts and acquire the resources needed for improving the balance of payments and revitalizing our economy.

"To this end my administration will make every possible effort to obtain the best conditions offered by international markets and attain the best use of multinational financial resources, such as the International Development Bank, the World Bank and others."

"A Venezuelan Government delegation recently visited our country to examine together with our government's officials the possibilities of expanding the economic and trade relations which have traditionally existed between the two countries. Reciprocating this visit, last week a Dominican delegation traveled to Venezuela to continue the conversations. As a result of this visit we have reached an agreement by virtue of which Venezuela will purchase 230,000 tons of sugar from our country; that is, 100,000 tons more than they were going to buy, at 0.1099 F.O.B., which is the price on the Venezuelan domestic market. If there are any modifications of this price, corresponding adjustments will be made."

Subsequent to that visit, Lic Antonio Ortiz Mela, president of the Inter-American Development Bank, arrived in our country. During his visit he examined together with our officials areas in which our country needs financing from that institution. As a result of that visit the Inter-American Development Bank will send a mission in November to evaluate projects to be undertaken in 1979 as well as a technical assistance mission to determine, together with our officials, the projects that will be submitted to the bank for consideration."

"All public investments to be undertaken during the 4 years of my administration will be part of a policy whose cornerstone is the development of the livestock-agricultural sector which, together with attention for maintenance of roads and buildings and social sectors, health, education and housing, will contribute to improve the living conditions of the Dominican people." In addition, all necessary measures will be adopted so that public and private investments are directed toward activities which will contribute to the reduction of unemployment through the adoption of methods adequate to the availability of resources. At the same time, production will be directed toward goods which will contribute to lowering the cost of living.

"We are working on the promotion of exports and tourism in order to acquire the foreign currency needed to import essential goods that are not produced in the country. All this is possible because of the normalization of the political situation. Since 16 August the income derived from fiscal activities--which had reached a standstill from 16 May to 16 August--has improved markedly. Several measures aimed at reducing payments without adequate justification have been adopted. In this sense I have directed the members of the cabinet to personally pay the salaries for the month of August in order to determine who were receiving salaries without rendering any service to the state.

"In addition, we have submitted a bill which eliminates the permit required to travel abroad. In accordance with studies we have made, this measure is unworkable and only causes inconveniences and annoyance." Likewise, I will submit another bill by virtue of which the income tax will be reduced considerably. "Another directive will modify the premium payed by Dominican importers when they acquire dollars. These are the initial and more obvious steps being taken in rationalizing the application of income tax for the benefit of taxpayers." "Through this process our greatest effort is directed at insuring that both persons and corporations--which do not currently pay income tax and which in many instances are not even registered at collection offices--do begin making just payments to the state."

"A World Bank delegation is visiting our country for the purpose of examining tourist projects under construction on the northern coast, sponsored by the Central Bank. The first phase of this project will be completed next (?month).

The delegation is conducting an evaluation for the possible negotiation of a new loan to finance the second phase of that tourist complex, which will consist of the construction of hotel accommodations."

My administration has undertaken several programs for developing the livestock-agricultural sector, assisting the peasants financially and materially. This government will step up all education programs by providing the funds required by centers of higher education. "Despite our enormous economic limitations, we have decided to provide the funds required by the university. We are granting 400,000 pesos in two lots of 200,000 each as an extraordinary subsidy." Orders have been issued to the secretary of state for public works to complete the construction of the laboratories of the university's physics department at a cost of 1.6 million pesos, 300,000 of which have already been invested.

With respect to labor demands, it is impossible to provide in 1 month or 1 year what they were unable to get in 12 years. Therefore, I ask the sectors participating in the country's productive activities to be prudent, above all at a time when the nation has a government which will decidedly work for the well-being of all Dominicans and which will work for harmonious labor relations.

In the foreign service we are conducting a restructuring which will allow us to have a more efficient and dynamic diplomatic and consular corps by incorporating it into our export activities, so that it may become an active participant in our economy.

We have ordered the complete disarming of the populace. The nation's armed forces and police will provide the security and safety guaranteed by the constitution. I wish to stress that the full force of the law will fall on those who perpetrate crimes or who participate in acts of violence against the security of the state or peace and order, which is everybody's security. "In closing, I would like to announce that starting 1 October of this year the minimum wage paid by the central government will be 100 pesos per month. This measure will benefit more than 11,000 public servants and members of our armed forces and national police."

"I urge the Dominican people to have faith in our destiny as a nation and in the government freely elected on 16 May, which represents change without violence and a better life. The results of that change are already becoming a reality. We have full confidence in the strength of our economy and in the will and work spirit of our people. With this strength we will overcome destiny. Almighty God and the Virgin of Altagracia will help us to press on. Thank you very much."

MEXICO

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED WITH ECUADOR ON NICARAGUA

PA2021333Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 2336 GMT 19 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 19 Sep (EFE)--After jointly examining the Nicaraguan situation, Ecuador and Mexico agreed here today "to do everything in their power" to get the OAS to contribute effective solutions on behalf of the Nicaraguan people.

In a joint communique issued today at the end of Ecuadorean Foreign Minister Jose Ayala Lasso's visit, the two countries stressed that those solutions should fall within the framework of respect for the basic principles on which the inter-American system is based. Ecuador and Mexico made this statement and stressed their adherence to the principles of nonintervention, juridical equality of all states and the ban on the use of threats or force in international relations.

After concluding a 3-day round of talks begun Sunday between Ayala and Mexican Foreign Secretary Santiago Roel, the two nations proclaimed their devotion to the maintenance and strengthening of peace. They also reaffirmed their support for the principle of peaceful solutions to international controversies and voiced their confidence that hemispheric problems will be resolved in that manner.

The two countries' declaration on Nicaragua was released after the Mexican foreign secretary explained, after indicating that his government's position on Nicaragua is one of nonintervention, that this concept is not equivalent to indifference.

On another subject, both Ecuador and Mexico voiced their "deep concern" over the resurgence of the industrialized nations' protectionist measures and called for the prompt establishment of a new economic order. They also agreed on the urgent need to strengthen the United Nations and voiced their determination to continue struggling on behalf of total and complete disarmament. They also voiced their support for the Latin American economic system and expressed their hope that the Tlaltelolco treaty banning nuclear weapons in Latin America will be implemented as soon as possible in all the hemisphere's countries.

At the binational level, the foreign ministers created a mixed economic commission for the purpose of strengthening their economic relations. This commission will meet in November for the first time.

The two foreign ministers signed the joint communique after Ayala Lasso met with President Jose Lopez-Portillo last night. The Ecuadorean minister is scheduled to return to his country this afternoon.

MEXICO GRANTS ASYLUM TO 11 IN EMBASSY IN MANAGUA

PA191806Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1743 GMT 19 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 19 Sep (AFP)--Mexican Foreign Minister Santiago Roel revealed here today that the Mexican Embassy in Nicaragua had granted asylum to 11 persons and refuge to 9 Mexicans, it was learned here today. Publicly outlining Mexico's position on the Nicaraguan conflict, Roel also remarked that "nonintervention does not signify indifference."

During a news conference, he pointed out that Mexico will not sever relations with Nicaragua and that the OAS conference to analyze the Nicaraguan problem will strive for a solution that will contemplate the exercising of civic freedoms.

PARAGUAY

TWO AILING HUNGER STRIKERS FREED; CARDINAL MAKES PLEA

PY202301Y Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 20 Sep 78 p 6 PY

[Text] Two political prisoners who were hospitalized at the Rigoberto Caballero Police Clinic on Tuesday were set free yesterday evening.

They are Alberto Alegre Portillo and Sotero Franco, who had been confined at the Emboscada Prison where they had begun, with other prisoners, a hunger strike. They were then transferred to that clinic, where they decided to lift the strike under the promise to be set free soon.

Nevertheless, the small group of Emboscada inmates and other prisoners in some police precincts are firmly continuing their hunger strike which began 40 days ago seeking their freedom. A source indicated that the government would not listen to their demands unless they give up the strike.

Relatives of engineer Virgilio Bareiro and Taurin Portillo indicated that Bareiro and Portillo had been urgently taken to the police clinic because they were seriously ill as a result of the hunger strike they have been carrying on for 40 days. Some of their relatives fear for their lives.

Cardinal Urges Prisoners' Release

PY210113Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2301 GMT 20 Sep 78 PY

[Excerpt] Sao Paulo, 20 Sep (AFP)--Cardinal Paulo Evaristo Arns, archbishop of Sao Paulo, today issued an urgent plea for the release of eight political prisoners in Paraguay who have been on a hunger strike for 41 days. The cardinal stated the prisoners are now in danger of dying and that the Paraguayan president, Gen Alfredo Stroessner, has to date refused to receive the directors of the Paraguayan Bishops Conference who had offered to serve as mediators. A communique published here today by the Committee for the Defense of Human Rights in the Southern Cone of Latin America (with which the Sao Paulo archbishop is associated), reported that five of the prisoners are in Emboscada Prison near Asuncion and the other three are in police stations in the Paraguayan capital.

BRIEFS

BOLIVIAN MICROWAVE NETWORK EXPANSION--The National Telecommunications Company (ENTEL) has reported that the microwave network expansion to Tarija, Potosi and Sucre will be in operation around the middle of 1980, since work is being carried out on schedule. An automatic telephone system between these three cities will be put in operation at the same time. The microwave equipment will be provided by General Electric of England. It was also reported that the international traffic center and the Tiwanacu satellite communications station may be dedicated in December of this year. [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 17 Sep 78 p 12 PY]

BOLIVIAN DELEGATE TO ITC--Eduardo Asebey, new Bolivian delegate to the International Tin Council [ITC] headquartered in London, will leave for London tomorrow to represent the Mining Corporation of Bolivia at that organization. [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 18 Sep 78 p 3 PY]

DOMINICAN MEDIA DIRECTOR--(Dr Bruno Pimentel) has been appointed director general of Radio Television Dominicana by Decree No 218, signed last night by President Antonio Guzman Fernandez. (Dr Bruno Pimentel) replaces Lic Hatuey de Camps, who held that position temporarily in an honorary capacity. [Text] [Santo Domingo Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 19 Sep 78 PL]

BOLIVIAN AMBASSADOR DESIGNATED--The Foreign Ministry disclosed yesterday that Interior Under Secretary Walter Rios Gambos will replace Willy Vargas Vacaflor as ambassador to Brazil. Vargas will take a post in the Andean Development Corporation. Chief of Protocol Roberto Pacheco will be ambassador to Japan. [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 14 Sep 78 p 13 PY]

YUGOSLAV-BOLIVIAN COOPERATION--During a meeting with Transport Minister Alfredo Franco Guachalla, Yugoslav Ambassador Istok Zager stated that Yugoslavia is interested in giving technical cooperation to Bolivia in roadbuilding programs, renewal of railway stock, lumber industry and mining. [La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 8 Sep 78 PY]

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